

TO BRING GOD'S GRACE AND LOVE TO EACH OTHER
AND TO THE WORLD

THE LIGHT



September 2017

Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A Congregation of the North/West Lower
Michigan Synod,
Craig Satterlee, Bishop
Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop*

1101 S. Mears Avenue
Whitehall, MI 49461
(231) 893-5745

Rev. Douglas M. Ogden

Sunday Morning Worship
8:00 am & 10:15 am— Communion
9:00am - Adult Forum

Office Hours
9:00 am—1:00 pm M-F (Margaret)
6:30 pm – 9:30 pm W, Th (Sue)

**Newsletter Editor &
Bulletin Announcements**
Margaret Everling

Church Council

Doug Aardema	Terry Beekman
Curt Crouch	Virginia DeMumbrum
Sheila Fretty	Frank Hollister
Scott Keller	Allan Hinks
Sandy Robbins	Al Wheeler

**“We are baptized members of God’s
Church, forgiven and set free by grace
through faith.**

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

**Facebook: Lebanon Lutheran Church
(ELCA)**

Instagram—Twitter : #lesignsofgrace

Pastor’s Notes

“How can water do these things?”

Anyone who spent time on the beaches this summer, or on a boat, or watched the sunset over the lake has asked Martin Luther’s question from the small catechism.

An athlete at the end of a race drinks, replenishes and enjoys the effects of water.

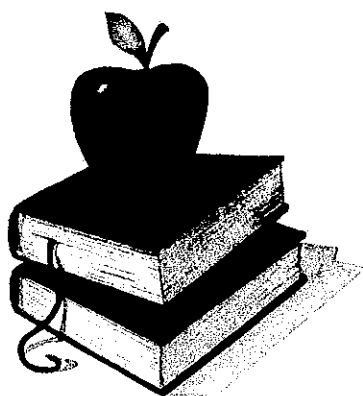
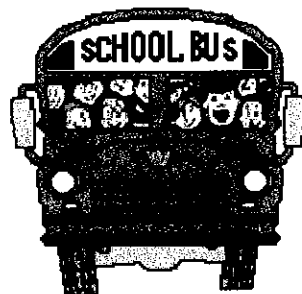
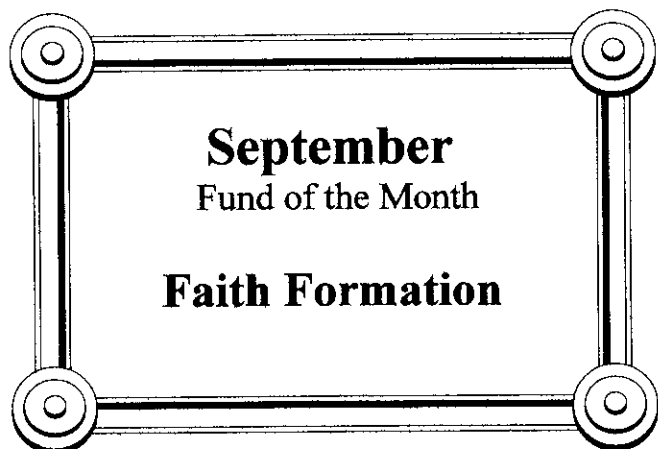
Water brings the Stacy family together September 10 for the baptism of three children - Sarah and Mike’s ; Becky and Mike’s; Katy and Jordie’s family. Sally and Charles crossed much water to worship with us from New Zealand.

It isn’t just water -- it is water along with the word of God, and faith, which trusts this word of God in the water.

Without the Word of God the water is plain water, but with the word of God it is a grace-filled water of life.

Sunday, September 17 at 3 pm we will discover these Reformation themes in music, as our conference gathers to sing in honor of the 500th anniversary. Carol Rienstra at the organ, Audra Erb at the piano, guitars and instruments and you - ‘singing & making melody from your heart with hymns and spiritual songs’ (Ephesians 5:19).

Pastor Ogden



Back To Class Schedule!

Whitehall Public Schools - September 5, 2017

Montague Public Schools - September 5, 2017

Websites of Interest

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

www.mittensynod.org

www.elca.org

www.whitelakescouting.com

www.whitelakechorale.com

www.hopescarves.org

LivingLutheran.org

SCOUT SCHEDULE 2017

WEBELOS II - 1st and 3rd Monday - 7 pm

WOLVES - 1st and 3rd Tuesday - 6:30 pm

TROOP 1048 MEETS WEEKLY AT 5 pm
Pack Meetings held the last Monday of each month

Venture Crew meets 3rd Sunday at 3:30pm

Boy Scout Committee meets 3rd Sunday at 4:30pm, at Fruitland Twp. Park in July and August.

Cub Scout Committee meets 2nd Monday at 7:30pm - Starting in September

Prayer Concerns

It is an important part of our ministry to be praying constantly for one another. We add names to the prayer list with consent in order to maintain privacy and confidentiality. This month in your prayers, please remember:



Prayers for those who are homebound: Our Minister

Ken & Mary Bernhardt, at home.
Marcia Eyer, at home (of St. Alban Episcopal)
Bob and Vera Green, Green Acres Assisted Living, Mt. Pleasant
Lois Hildebrandt, at Bush Creek (Marlene Holmstrom)
Nancy Peterson, at Heartland , Room #415
Velma Roesler, at White Lake Assisted Living Center
Gini Kaines, (Michele Wheeler's mother), at Heartland, (Donna Stacy)
Ruth Nurmi, at home
Kathleen Wagner, at Heartland Whitehall, Room #102.
Bernie Weidner, at Sanctuary of the Oaks.
Mike Szczerbinski, with health concerns

Special Prayer Concerns:

Nate Bernhardt, health concerns & MRI
Jone Benedict, broken leg after a fall.
Ann Bloom, recuperating from knee surgery on August 7
Don Erwin, Diagnosed with a bleeding ulcer. Spider bite is doing well.
Barb Gelvin, suffered a slight stroke on July 30.
Philip Holmblade, (Brian Holmblade's brother), with health concerns.
Eileen Hovey, Surgery on 8/21 for skin cancer
Lauren Kerkstra, (Darrel and Jeanette Otto's granddaughter), recovering slowly, able to walk and take commands. Remains non-verbal . Baby born healthy on June 5.
Jim Kienke, aggressive cancer. (Rick Hughes' brother-in-law)
Sandy Kolb, with health issues.
Lara MacGregor, with health concerns.
Leah, 42, (daughter-in-law of Barb Aardema's classmate) advanced colon cancer.
Lorraine (Rick Hughes' mother). in Heartland.
Rana & Kareema Majeed, at home preparing to return to Iraq.
Jennie Palmer, with health concerns.
Pete Palmer, at White Lake Assisted Living
Hazel Palmer, recuperating from surgery.
Tim Schrand, (Virginia DeMumbrum's brother), battling a very aggressive cancer, and her other brother in a car accident.
Jane Siedenstrang, diagnosed with breast cancer.



Worship Notes

Sunday, September 3 - Pentecost 13

Musician: Liturgy Instruments Group

Readings

Color: Green

Jeremiah 15:15-21

Psalms 26:1-8

Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 16:21-28

Prayer of the Day

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, September 10 - Pentecost 14

Musician: Monica Ogden

Readings

Color: Green

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Psalms 119:33-40

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, September 17 - Pentecost 15

Musician: Ardy Bulthouse

Readings

Color: Green

Genesis 50:15-21
Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Sunday, September 24 - Pentecost 16

Musician: Monica Ogden

Readings

Color: Green

Jonah 3:10-4:11
Psalm 145:1-8
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual loving kindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



September



9/1 Lorey Montgomery
9/1 Megan Nelson
9/2 Richard Bernhardt
9/2 Richard Knoth
9/2 Anna Slamkowski
9/3 Paula Moreau
9/5 Mike Szczerbinski
9/5 Heather Wiethoff
9/6 Melissa Berry
9/6 Marlene Holmstrom
9/6 Deb (Statz) Peabody
9/7 Josh Keller
9/8 Robin Civis
9/8 Darlene Willbrandt
9/8 David Pearson
9/10 Valerie Johnson
9/11 Brian Jaekel
9/12 Dennis Roesler II
9/13 Carol Mines
9/14 Paul Honoré
9/14 Carol Bernhardt
9/18 Mary Carlson
9/18 Bob Palmer

9/18 Sue Roesler
9/19 Dale Bouck
9/19 Cheri Crouch
9/19 Shawn Erwin
9/20 Robert Lathrop
9/21 Karen Cloutier
9/21 Chad Parks
9/22 Jason Roesler
9/23 Jodi Emms
9/23 Stephen Ogden
9/23 Jennie Palmer Lance
9/24 Chris Soraruf
9/25 Peter Fretty
9/25 Helen Allshouse
9/26 Kerri Bernhardt
9/27 Nate Aardema
9/27 Linda Meier
9/28 Kim Nelson
9/28 Mark Will
9/29 Linda Everitt
9/29 Tom Foster
9/29 Jeffrey Soraruf
9/30 Jennifer Shalifoe



9/2/67 Bob & Hazel Palmer
9/4/93 Jay & Mardi Otto
9/7/57 Dick and Donna Knoth
9/6/14 Michael and Rebecca (Stacy)
Chynoweth
9/9/77 Mike & Kay Snell
9/11/82 Rick & Holly Hughes
9/13/14 Carol Ann (Deneke) & Terry
Zaverl

9/14/03 Terry and Mary Beckman
9/19/92 Dwight & Michelle Roesler
9/22/90 Don & Amy Romain
9/23/72 Roger & JoAnne Silk
9/26/87 Jim and Flo King
9/26/92 Troy and Mary Gallihugh
9/29/61 Karl & Shirley Glass

Baptism Anniversaries



9/7 Rozella Holmstrom	9/18 Molly Crouch Mooren	9/20 Brittney Roesler
9/7 Lois Szczerbinski	9/18 Brianne Roesler	9/23 Brooke Otto
9/11 Ethan Reynolds	9/19 Jessica Gelvin	9/26 Larry Foster
9/13 Wayne Roesler	9/20 Kenneth Bernhardt	9/29 Morgan Hughes

Celebrate your baptism anniversary with a candle a meal or this prayer:

“Stir up within me the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and joy, on this day when I give thanks for my baptism in to Christ.”

From the choir director:

If you enjoy music, please consider joining the choir. We practice twice a month, usually the 2nd and 4th Sundays after the 10:15 service. As demonstrated last year, we are more than happy to use any musical talent that is presented to us. Reading music is not required. There are no try outs. Although standing in front in a small group can be scary, there is plenty of support. All that is required is a willing spirit.

If you want to make music and really don't feel comfortable raising your voice, please consider joining Cheri Crouch and the bell choir. Ringing can be uplifting as well as fun.



Thanks very much and see you around church,

Diane Eastman

News & Notes



Samaritas 83rd Anniversary Celebration Dinner

You are cordially invited to Samarita's 83rd Anniversary Celebration at the JW Marriot in Grand Rapids on Monday, September 25, 2017, at 6:15 pm. Together, with your participation, we can continue to meet the growing need for our continuum of services that assures that children, families, and individuals of all ages and backgrounds in West Michigan have access to life-giving, professional health and human services that they need and deserve. We welcome individual and corporate sponsorships. The cost is \$50 per ticket to attend. For more information or to order tickets, contact Dollie Grant at 616-284-5704 or dgran@samaritas.org. Please RSVP by September 13, 2017. Thank you for partnering with Samaritas to serve people as an expression of the love of Christ!

*Pastor Niklaus C. Shillack
Director, Congregational Engagement
Samaritas*

Member Update:

Bernie Weidner will be 91 in November. He walks about a mile a day and lifts weights at the gym. He goes to chapel at the home for church on Sunday.



Lana Myers, our church custodian is looking for a used car in good condition for \$5,000. If you know of anyone who has a car they are looking to sell, please contact her .

Arconic Food Truck will be in the South parking lot on September 21, 2017 at 4:00 pm.

A huge thank you to the thirty plus volunteers who made it possible to host another successful backpack event. The way our congregation members come together because we know there are families who need our support, is another demonstration of our priorities and of our faith. "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

Gratefully, Kay Snell

Thanks to John Parks, Louis Mayville, Al Wheeler, Curt and Cheri Crouch, Doug Ogden and Miska & a great team who built a ramp for Mike Szczerbinski August 20th.



Hi! I am Miska.

I was answering these “who-you-are” questions all summer, so I know what you want to hear.

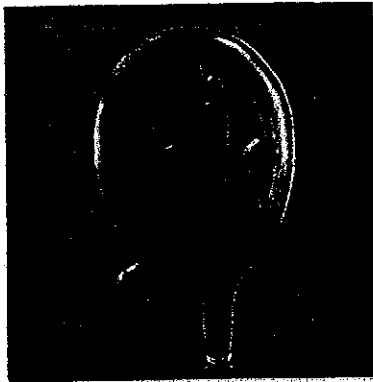
My name is Miska (no h). The village, where I live has 150 citizens and is called Opina. Don't

try to find it out on the map of Slovakia. I have one brother- Miso, who lives in Czech Republic

in another small village, which also isn't on the map. He is 13 years older than me, and sometimes he is more an uncle, than a brother. My parents are over 50. Dad is running his own business as a wood chopper and mom is a housewife. She has some health issues, so she is at home.

As you probably know, I study theology at Comenianus University in Bratislava. I've finished my 3rd year in June. We don't have pastor' seminars in Slovakia. When you want to become a pastor, you need to study theology and gain a master degree. Our university is co-working with the Lutheran church, which means, that my studies are comparable to being in a seminary. As a student of theology and future pastor, but also as a member of the church, I'm trying to be an active part of the Slovak Lutheran Church and of my congregation in Opina.

I started to work as a volunteer when I was 14, and this summer is first time, when I am not doing something in my congregation. I was in charge of children camps in last two years, and I've started to lead youth group two years ago, and most of the time, and just doing whatever is needed. Being here gave me several ideas how to improve my work at home, and how to start new projects in my congregation, but you will find out more in October's newsletter!



**North/
West Lower
Michigan Synod**

**2900 N. Waverly Rd.
Lansing, MI 48906**

517-321-5066

In This Issue

Bishop's Letter

Healthy Boundaries

Upcoming Events

Congregations in Transition

Reflections on our Assembly

Continuing from last month's newsletter, I invite you to read the final two reflections from our Synod Assembly in May.

Eliminate Term Limits: We considered a constitutional amendment that eliminated term limits for synod vice president and secretary. While a majority supported the amendment, it did not receive the two thirds necessary for adoption. Some lay the amendment's defeat at my feet because of the way I structured the assembly; they contend that, if this vote happened after the elections (where in some cases we still needed nominations) and Vice President Schlesinger's very excellent report, it would've passed overwhelmingly.

I heard two "worst case scenarios" as reasons we need term limits. The first is that it would be possible for someone to be elected at 21 and to serve until he or she is 95 and we need a mechanism beyond elections to prevent this from happening. I hear a form of this argument from congregational leaders who determine their pastor—who has neither terms nor limits – stayed too long and they want a mechanism that forces the pastor to move on without them having to tell him so. I learned how powerfully elections serve as term limits in 2013, when a very popular presiding bishop stood for a third term and Bishop Eaton was elected.

The second "worst case scenario" I heard is that, without term limits, we won't seek nominees. Truth be told, under Pastor Timm's leadership, we are working to make nominations more transparent and inclusive. Compared to other synods, our nomination process has room to grow so that it revolves less around personal relationships and connections by giving every congregation an opportunity to lift up gifted leaders.

Our officers play a very strong role in leading our synod. The vice president leads the synod council by setting the tone and agenda, and chairs the executive committee as

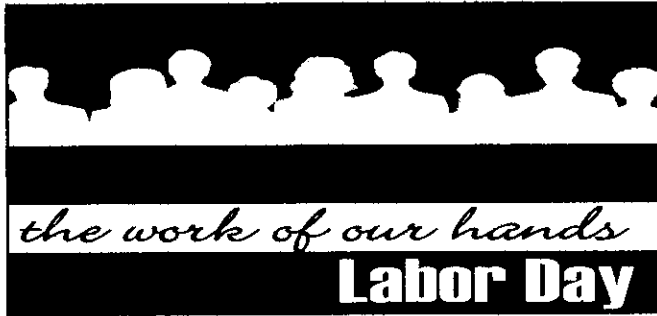
the synod's HR team. The secretary holds both the council and staff accountable to the directions set and the tasks undertaken through her keeping of minutes and other records. In synods without such leadership, the bishop and staff has more to do. My worry is losing wise and gifted leadership at a critical time for no reason other than it is term limited.

Both during assembly and in the weeks since, many people have reached out to me to ask if we could reconsider this next year. Some asked if we could increase the number of terms from two terms to four. Knowing that good ideas involving change are rarely received when first suggested, I suspect we will talk about this again in 2018.

Future Assemblies: We work hard to respond to people's hopes and desires for synod assembly. This year included an Opening and Closing Eucharist, two keynote addresses, and opportunities for learning. A few have asked about the possibility of a one-day or biennial assembly. Both are possible; other synods have attempted each. In 2018, we are contracted to be in Lansing and Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will be with us. In 2019, we have a bishop's election. While a bishop would be delighted to be reelected on the first ballot, making a one-day assembly possible, planning for such an outcome by scheduling a one-day assembly would be ruled "out of order." So 2020 is our first opportunity to try a one-day assembly or to omit it altogether. This gives us plenty of time to consider and plan.

While he was with us, Bishop Erwin quipped that bishops like to see synod assembly through the rear view mirror. That's true in terms of the planning that goes into them and the chances that the wheels are going to fall off. But in terms of being church together, I've become a real fan. So thanks to everyone who came to assembly and thank you for whatever role you played.

The Rev. Craig Alan Satterlee, Ph.D., Bishop



Labor Day is September 4, 2017 -
The church office will be closed
on that date.

The Stewardship Committee will be handing out Estimate of Giving cards for 2018 on the 10th and 17th of September. We give out of the abundance that God has provided us. As you thoughtfully and prayerfully consider your 2018 donation, please reflect on all that happens here at Lebanon and how that is possible thanks to your contributions. Perhaps you need a box of giving envelopes for 2018, let Curt Crouch know, perhaps you are ready to start giving electronically through our Simply Giving Program, see Curt or Tony DeNicolo to get started. We will have an opportunity to bring our Estimate of Giving cards to the altar on Sunday, September 24th.



Lebanon will once again host the parking lot space (and perhaps our bathrooms to this race group) These are photos from last year's event (2016)

The race event will take place on September 29th and 30th!





The Dowling Street project begins next Monday, August 28th, and the street will be closed to all traffic (see attached map). All other local streets will be remain open. The detour route for thru traffic on Dowling Street will be Water Street to Stanton Boulevard to Cook Street.

The approximate completion date for the project is the end of October. During the first week of the project, the entire project area (from the top of the hill at Meade Street to the traffic light on Water Street) will be pulverized and water main work will begin. During the second and third week, the water main work will progress up the hill while the storm sewer and curb work begins in the downtown area.



500th Anniversary of the Reformation in music, “Ancient and Modern”

An event of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America for the whole community

“God’s Word Is our Great Heritage”

“We’ve Come This Far By Faith”

“Salvation Unto Us has Come”

“Neither Death Nor life”

“Out Of the Depths”

“On Jordan’s Stormy Banks”

“Christ Has Arisen! Alleluia!

“Lift Every Voice And Sing”

“Joyful, Joyful We adore Thee”

“Christ Jesus Lay In Death’s Strong Bands”



Christians love to sing. “Ancient and Modern” is a celebration of the music that has carried the faith into every culture and time. If you love to sing . . .

Sunday, September 17 at 3 pm

At Lebanon Lutheran 1101 S. Mears Ave, Whitehall, MI 49461

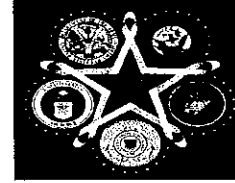
(231) 893-5745

[www. lebanonlutheranchurch.com](http://www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com)

July 1, 2017

Dear Pastor Ogden and Lebanon Lutheran Church,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!



I write to you in joy from Fort Leonard Wood, MO; it's hot, but I enjoy the ministry to and with Soldiers. I also remind you that you signed up at synod assembly to send cookies to my Soldiers so that they would arrive on 31 July 2017.

As it turns out, the "liturgical worship service" in which I have a leadership role has a fellowship hour after the service, so not only will the Soldiers of my battalion receive your cookies, but also those trainees who attend our worship service.

I also ask you to pray for Brian Johnston, one of my Alpha Company drill sergeants, as well as all of the new trainees who come to us on Monday!

My information was incorrect; UPS and FEDEX both ship to Fort Leonard Wood. My address is:

41 Ellis Street
Fort Leonard Wood, MO 65473

My Soldiers look forward to receiving your cookies!

SDG,
Christopher Laughlin

July 30, 2017

Ma'am,

Your cookies were a huge hit at the Liturgical Worship Service and continue to be with the Soldiers who come to my office!

You will receive two letters in the mail within 10 days (the mail is slow leaving and entering the installation).

SDG,
CH Laughlin





Fifty years is a mighty long time for an individual to be putting out records, but Chuck Nessa has more than his prized label's longevity to celebrate. The onetime Jazz Record Mart employee has released some of Chicago's most significant recordings, including history-making classics by the Art Ensemble of Chicago and its individual members, Air, Leo Smith and Von Freeman. Though thick and thin, economically speaking, he has documented the scene with undiminished devotion. When Nessa issues or reissues an album, you can count on it meeting the highest artistic standards.

No artist embodies the vision and uncompromising values of Nessa Records more than saxophonist Roscoe Mitchell, who appeared on the label's first release, *Numbers 1 and 2* – a pre-Art Ensemble effort credited to trumpeter Lester Bowie – and is captured on recent gems of his own including *Celebrating Fred Anderson* and *Four Ways*. It was Roscoe who encouraged Nessa to start his own label back in 1967, having worked with him on his landmark debut, *Sound*. That album was released on Bob Koester's Delmark Records. . Nessa was a production assistant on the project.

To mark the anniversary, Mitchell will lead two quartets. One will flash back to the *Sound* era via the presence of drummer **Alvin Fielder** and trumpeter **Fred Berry**, with young bassist **Junius Paul** acting as surrogate for the late Malachi Favors. The other foursome will team Mitchell with one of the standout players on the contemporary free jazz scene, cellist **Tomeka Reid** (whose recent album with saxophonist Nick Mazzarella, *Signaling*, came out on Nessa) plus Junius Paul and veteran drummer **Vincent Davis**. At 76, Mitchell has 25-plus years on Nessa Records, but like the label, he's still at the top of his game.



Lebanon Lutheran Church

1101 South Mears Avenue
Whitehall, MI 49461

Living in God's Amazing Grace

The Light is published monthly by Lebanon Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Mears Avenue, Whitehall, MI 49461. Submissions are accepted through the 15th of each month. Submissions **MUST** include your name and a way to contact you in case of questions.

2 ways to submit your information:

- yellow folder in Margaret's office
(*better*)
- office@lebanonlutheranchurch.com
(*best*)

